



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
HISTORICAL LANDMARKS and RECORDS COMMISSION

B-50 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration · 500 West Temple Street · Los Angeles, CA 90012
213/974-1431

Louis Skelton, CHAIRMAN • Stephen Sass, VICE-CHAIR
Helen J. Monteilh • Yolanda Duarte-White • Ivy Sun, COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 11, 2008

Room 372, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

PRESENT:

Louis Skelton, Chairman
Yolanda Duarte-White
Ivy Sun

EXCUSED ABSENT:

Stephen J. Sass
Helen J. Monteilh

EX OFFICIO REPRESENTATIVES:

Robert Seal, County Library
William D. Estrada, Museum of Natural History
Dardy Chen, LA Superior Court
Zoe Venhuizen, LA Superior Court

GUEST:

Edgar Garcia, City of Los Angeles, Office of Historic Resources

OTHERS PRESENT:

Sandra Barbee, Division Chief, Commission Services
Rosemary Osuna, Staff
Audra Galang, Staff

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Skelton called the meeting to order at 9:14 a.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 3, 2007 MINUTES

On motion of Commissioner Yolanda Duarte-White, seconded by Commissioner Ivy Sun, and unanimously carried, the minutes for the meeting of March 3, 2007 were approved as submitted.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chair Skelton welcomed the Commission back for the new year and informed them that the Commission's focus and goal will be to work on the County's records retention process.

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STAFF REPORT

Ms. Rosemary Osuna, staff, reported that, because of a Board mandate, the Commissioners are required to attend a Sexual Harassment Prevention & Cultural Diversity training. This Commission is scheduled for January 17, 2008, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Room B-68 of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration.

REVIEW OF NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES (NATIONAL REGISTER)

Chair Skelton began the discussion on this topic. He questioned as the Commission receiving applications from the Office of Historic Preservation for comment for properties found in incorporated cities as these applications are beyond the scope of the Commission's authority. He explained there was a change of policy from the State level calling for local cities to review and comment on applications, and the Commission stopped providing a resource from the county to local municipalities. On further discussion, it was recommended that County Counsel be consulted to confirm whether the Commission is to be reviewing nominations to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) for properties found in incorporated cities.

The Commissions briefly discussed the NRHP applications for the following properties:

- Pasadena Arroyo Park and Recreation District in Pasadena
- Holmes-Shannon House in Los Angeles
- Bungalow Heaven Historic District in Pasadena
- Brockman Building and New York Cloak and Suit House (Annex) in Los Angeles
- Valentino Court in West Hollywood

Chair Skelton explained the Commission does not review the actual details of the factual information presented such as the identity of the person and his or her historical significance. But what is reviewed is how the record reflects the information so future researchers may use these documents as a secondary source. Also, the Commission wants to ensure the wording, format and information is presented in a way the primary sources can be found, or in some cases, the document can become the most authoritative information about a property over time.

The Commission reviewed the Pasadena Arroyo Park and Recreation District and Bungalow Heaven Historic District in Pasadena and found the information was presented well.

Since the Commissioners did not have the opportunity to review all the applications, Chair Skelton recommended the applications be received and filed with no action as all properties are within municipal city limits. He further added that if any member of the Commission opted to select an item and follow up with a letter, it be done on an individual basis rather than for the Commission.

After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Sun, seconded by Commissioner Duarte-White and unanimously carried, the Commission approved to review the following application: 1) Pasadena Arroyo Park and Recreation District in Pasadena, 2) Holmes-Shannon House in Los Angeles, 3) Bungalow Heaven Historic District in Pasadena, 4) Brockman Building and New York Cloak and Suit House (Annex) in Los Angeles, and 5) Valentino Court in West Hollywood. Comments or correspondence by the individual Commissioners be prepared for the respective Commissioner on his or her letterhead at his or her discretion and forwarded to the State for the February 1st meeting.

PROPERTY PLACED ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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The Commission received notification of two properties – (1) Pisgah Home Historic District and (2) Royal Laundry/Milus Textile Services in Pasadena – that have been placed on the National Register. These items will be received and filed without objection.

PORT OF LOS ANGELES: SAN PEDRO WATERFRONT PROJECT EIR/EIS
CORRESPONDENCE

The Commission received a letter from Richard Starzak, Principal and Senior Architectural Historian of Jones & Stokes, on the Port of Los Angeles: San Pedro Waterfront Project EIR/EIS. Mr. Starzak explains in the letter that Jones & Stokes is preparing historic and cultural resources documentation for the Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Study for the San Pedro Waterfront Project for the Los Angeles Harbor Department. As part of its research, the company is contacting local historical organizations to help identify any historic buildings/landmarks and is requesting the Commission's assistance in identifying, in writing, any properties in the project area that could be considered historic properties.

Chair Skelton indicated that he will continue informal discussion with the port, as he has been communicating with them before the Jones & Stokes' request. Chair Skelton asked the Commission to review the correspondence received and include any item of their interest as an agenda item for the Commission's next meeting.

EX OFFICIO MEMBER REPORTS

No reports.

MATTERS NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA (TO BE PRESENTED AND PLACED ON THE AGENDA FOR ACTION AT A FUTURE MEETING)

1. Port of Los Angeles: San Pedro Waterfront Project EIR/EIS
2. Update on Historic Preservation Ordinance in the County of Los Angeles.
3. Los Angeles County Records Retention Process

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Edgar Garcia, Preservation Planner with the City of Los Angeles, Office of Historic Resources inquired about the decision on Holmes-Shannon House in Los Angeles. Chair Skelton explained that the application for this property was received, and filed without opposition as the application is beyond the scope of the Commission's jurisdiction and the Commission is not in a position to take formal action. However, if Commissioners want to comment on an individual basis, they may.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:56 a.m.